

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 AID-20

SR-02 ORM-03 OMB-01 SCS-03 SCA-01 OPR-02 A-01 CIAE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 ACDA-19 IO-13 SY-10 NIC-01 USSS-00

OC-06 CCO-00 NEA-10 DRC-01 /170 W

----- 115255

O R 171714Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5667

INFO DOD/DIA

USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 4323

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CIN PINS

SUBJ: WRAPUP 12:00 SEPT 17

1. TRAFFIC INTO DOWNTOWN SANTIAGO EXTREMELY HEAVY THIS AM AS OFFICES AND BUSINESSES REOPENING. CONGESTION INCREASED BY PRESENCE OF NUMEROUS TRUCKS AND BUSES WHICH HAD BEEN SIDELINED DURING TRANSPORT STRIKE AND ABSENCE OF TRAFFIC POLICEMEN. CARABINEROS OBVIOUSLY STILL DEVOTING ATTENTION TO MORE PRESSING PROBLEMS. THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT GOVT FEELS IT HAS INTERNAL SECURITY SCENE UNDER CONTROL. ARMS SEARCHES AND MILITARY OPERATIONS AGAINST EXTREMISTS CONTINUE (SEPTTEL).

2. GOVT PRESSING HARD ON THEME THAT COUNTRY RETURNING TO NORMALITY AND PRO PROMISING TRADITIONAL MEAT PIES AND RED WINE FOR CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL HOLIDAYS SEPT 18-19. (SEE SEPTTEL ON ECONOMIC SITUATION.)

3. MILITARY GOVERNMENT APPARENTLY HIGHLY SENSITIVE TO FOREIGN
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PRESS CRITICISM OF ACTIONS. STATEMENT EVENING SEPT 16

ATTACKED FOREIGN DISTORTIONS AND ARGUED - OBVIOUSLY IN RESPONSE TO CHARGES IT DID NOT REPEAT - THAT MAJORITY OF CASUALTIES (NO NUMBER GIVEN) FAULT OF SUICIDAL TERRORISTIC ACTION AND THAT MAJORITY OF PRISONERS ARE EXTREMISTS WHO WILL BE DEALT WITH IN LEGAL MANNER BY MILITARY COURTS. MININT BONILLA STATED SEPT 17 THAT GOVT WILL SOON RELEASE LIST OF ALL PRISONERS. BONILLA GUARANTEED THAT THEIR LEGAL RIGHTS WILL BE PRESERVED.

4. GOVT PRESSING QUOTE EITHER THEM OR US UNQUOTE THEME IN PUBLISHING INFORMATION THAT LEFT EXTREMISTS HAD BEEN PLANNING QUOTE AUTOGOLPE UNQUOTE FOR SEPT 17 WHICH WOULD HAVE INVOLVED ASSASSINATION OF CINCS AND ATTACKS BY THOUSANDS OF TERRORISTS - MANY OF THEM FOREIGNERS - ON MILITARY TROOPS WHILE LATTER WERE PRACTICING FOR SEPT 18-19 MILITARY MARCHES. WRITTEN PLANS FOR QUOTE AUTOGOLPE UNQUOTE WERE REPORTEDLY FOUND IN FILES OF FORMER INTERIOR UNDERSEC DANIEL VERGARA. ACCORDING TO LA TERCERA SOURCE AUTOGOLPE WAS ALSO TO INVOLVE ASSASSINATION OF ALLENDE AND ASSUMPTION OF CONTROL BY ALTAMIRANO. SAME SOURCE STATES THAT BOTH ALTAMIRANO AND MIR'S MIGUEL MILITARY INTELLIGENCE (SIM) HAS REPORT THAT ALTAMIRANO IN RED CHINESE EMBASSY. ENRIQUES ARE DEAD. PRESS REPORTS THAT 67 POLITICAL ASYLEES LEFT MEXICAN EMBASSY FOR TRAVEL TO MEXICO WITH MRS. ALLENDE AND HER FAMILY. REPORTS ARE THAT ABOUT 180 MORE ARE STILL IN THE EMBASSY. NO NAMES GIVEN. ALL DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS HAVE RECEIVED CIRCULAR NOTE REQUESTING NAMES INDIVIDUALS INSIDE MISSIONS IN ASYLEE STATUS.

5. MERCURIO REPORTS THAT GROUP OF GUILD MOVEMENT (GREMIALISTA) LEADERS WILL TRAVEL NEXT WEEK TO U.S., CANADA AND WESTERN EUROPE TO EXPLAIN AND DEFEND MILITARY COUP. ACCORDING TO ARTICLE AMONG ELEVEN TRAVELLING WILL BE LEON VILARIN (TRANSPORT), JULION BAZAN (CUPROCH), JORJE FONTAINE (CHAMBER OF COMMERCE), ORLANDO SAENZ (SOFOFA) AND MANUEL VALDES (SNA). SAENZ AND VALDES HAVE BEEN GIVEN HIGH LEVEL GOVT RESPONSIBILITIES AND MAY FIND TRAVELLING DIFFICULT.

6. EMBASSY HAS BEEN TOLD BY LOCAL SOURCE WHO KNOWS CHIEF MILITARY SURGEON THAT LATTER HAD SUPERVISED 4-HOUR ALLENDE AUTOPSY AND HAD CONCLUDED WITHOUT DOUBT THAT ALLENDE
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COMMITTED SUICIDE.

7. HEAVY EMPHASIS IN PRESS (TERCERA AND MERCURIO) ON ALLENDE'S LUXURIOUS LIFESTYLE AMPLIFIED WITH EXTENSIVE COVERAGE PRESIDENT'S TOMAS MORO RESIDENCE AND ANOTHER HIDEWAY HOME IN HILLS OUTSIDE SANTIAGO. NEWS REPORTS OF AMOUNT OF FOOD, IMPORTED LIQUOR ETC. HOARDED AT THESE LOCATIONS GIVEN HEAVY PLAY. PRESS ALSO ALLUDES TO, BUT DOES NOT PUBLISH,

PORNOGRAPHIC PICTURES OF ALLENDE AND OTHER HIGH LEVEL UPERS WHICH WERE ALLEGEDLY FOUND IN ARAYAN HIDEAWAY. LA TERCERA EDITOR TOLD CAO YESTERDAY THAT HE HAD SEEN THE PHOTOS.

8. SUNDAY' S EL MERCURIO NEWS OF WEEK REVIEW CARRIED SMALL LIST OF NATIONS WHICH HAVE ALREADY RECOGNIZED NEW GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING US. LOCAL AMERICAN NEWSMAN INFORMS US THAT HIS INQUIRY TO FOREIGN MINISTRY TO CHECK THE ACCURACY OF MERCURIO LIST MET WITH RAPID FOREIGN MINISTER ACKNOWLEDGEMENT THAT U.S. HAD NOT YET RECOGNIZED NEW GOVERNMENT.
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